

LPPRD WALLEYE HATCHERY

2017

PAUL GETTELMAN

After last year's rather dismal fry release we were hoping for a much better year. Last year was our 3rd "worst" year we had since we started in 2010. (Even a bad year is still a good year if we can release fry in the lake). We started collecting the fish on April 3 and stopped on April 4. We collected a total of 2,682,909 eggs (largest number of eggs we have ever collected) and released 2,050,000 fry (the 3rd largest fry released) for a hatch rate of 76%. A fantastic year considering we did this all in 17 days.

This year the DNR worked the nets for our walleye as they were doing a fish survey of the lake and had 6 nets for us to get the walleyes from. It worked out pretty good as we were able to get our walleyes in 2 days rather than the almost 2 weeks it took us last year (weather and high water caused the problem last year). We ended up with a total of 32 females that we used and 94 males. We had 53 males left over that we didn't use. We brought in a total of 179 walleyes.

The average length of the females we used was 19.8". The average length of the males we used was 16.8". The largest male we had was 19.2" The largest female we milked was 28" which gave us 2.75 quarts of eggs or 325,451 eggs. Or figures indicate that over 60% of her eggs were not fertile.

The Hatchery would like to thank all the volunteers that helped out again this year, Rick Klawieter, Gary Walker, Randy Schultz, Gene Weber, Randy Schmidt, Rich Pergande and Roger Shwanke. Sorry if I missed anyone.

There are plenty of pictures in addition to the ones here and some videos on our facebook page; Lake

Puckaway. You can even see what it is like for a fry to leave the jar and take the water park ride to the fry tank. Fun stuff. Our Face book page is going all year and will keep you up to date with anything that we are doing.

